

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A monitoring device for a motor vehicle having a front bumper and having an interior cabin, the device comprising:

at least one display device located in the interior cabin of the vehicle;

at least one camera arranged in front and/or rear part(s) of the vehicle, with which areas
5 to sides of the vehicle can be observed and displayed on the display device, wherein the camera is arranged on a carrier unit mounted centrally on the vehicle, whereby the carrier unit, if not being used, is retracted into bodywork of the vehicle and can be extended if required

the front bumper including a carrier unit;

said carrier unit including a first camera having a field of view of a first area to the left
10 adjacent the vehicle and a second camera having a field of view of a second area to the right adjacent the vehicle;

said carrier unit adapted to pivot from an operating position to a retracted position;

said first and second cameras being above the front bumper when said carrier unit is in said operating position;

15 said first and second cameras being within the front bumper when said carrier unit is in said retracted position;

said sides of the vehicle observed by said first and second cameras when said carrier unit pivots to said operating position;

images captured by said first and second cameras when in said operating position
20 displayed on the display device; and

said carrier unit pivotally moving from said operating position to said retracted position when said side views are not desired.

2. (Currently Amended) The monitoring device according to claim 1, characterized in that wherein said carrier unit is substantially flush with the bumper of the vehicle when in said retracted position

3. (Currently Amended) The monitoring device according to claim 1, characterized in that wherein said carrier unit is mounted on bearings so as to be rotatable about an axis such as to pivot.

4. (Currently Amended) The monitoring device according to claim 1 characterized in that wherein the said first and second cameras is a are CCD cameras.

5. (Original) The monitoring device according to claim 1, wherein the carrier unit can at least be locked into a position of rest in order to provide protection against damage or theft.

6. (Currently Amended) The monitoring device according to claim 1, wherein said carrier unit is centrally located on said front bumper ~~two cameras are arranged at the carrier unit, whereby the one camera can cover an area to the right of the vehicle, and whereby, the other camera can cover an area to the left of the vehicle.~~

7. (Currently Amended) The monitoring device according to claim 1, wherein image data transferred by the two said first and second cameras can be displayed next to one another in two areas on the display device.

8. (Original) The monitoring device according to claim 1, wherein the monitoring device interacts with a lighting device.

9. (Currently Amended) The monitoring device according to claim 8, wherein the lighting device is arranged on the carrier unit device.

10. (Currently Amended) The monitoring device according to claim 1, wherein [[the]] said first and second cameras [[is]] are capable of processing light signals in an infra-red range.

11. (Original) The monitoring device according to claim 1, wherein the display device is a navigation display.

12. (Currently Amended) The monitoring device according to claim 1, wherein the monitoring device is initially equipped with a control device, with which the extension and retraction of [[the]] said carrier unit or a lighting device respectively can be controlled and/or regulated.

13. (Currently Amended) The monitoring device according to claim 1, wherein the monitoring device can be used as a parking aid when driving out of a car park.

14. (New) A monitoring device for a motor vehicle having a front bumper and having an interior cabin, the device comprising:

at least one display device located in the interior cabin of the vehicle;

the front bumper including a carrier unit;

5 said carrier unit including at least one camera having a field of view of a first area to the left adjacent the vehicle and having a field of view of a second area to the right adjacent the vehicle;

 said carrier unit adapted to rotate about an axis from an operating position to a retracted position;

10 said at least one camera being above the front bumper when said carrier unit is in said operating position;

 said at least one camera being within the front bumper when said carrier unit is in said retracted position;

15 said sides of the vehicle observed by said at least one camera when said carrier unit pivots to said operating position;

 images captured by said at least one camera when in said operating position displayed on the display device;

 said carrier unit pivotally moving from said operating position to said retracted position

when said side views are not desired; and

wherein said carrier unit is substantially flush with the bumper of the vehicle when in said retracted position.

15. (New) The monitoring device according to claim 14, characterized in that said carrier unit is mounted on bearings so as to be rotatable about an axis.

16. (New) The monitoring device according to claim 14, wherein the carrier unit can at least be locked into a position of rest in order to provide protection against damage or theft.

17. (New) The monitoring device according to claim 14, wherein said carrier unit is centrally located on said front bumper.

18. (New) The monitoring device according to claim 14, wherein the monitoring device can be used when driving out of a car park.

19. (New) A monitoring device for a motor vehicle having a front bumper with an upper surface, the vehicle having an interior cabin, the device comprising:

a display device located in the interior cabin;

a pivot axis connected to the bumper;

a carrier unit with an upper edge surface and a first side open region and a second side

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open region, said carrier unit being mounted to the front bumper via said pivot axis for pivoting movement between an operating position, with said upper edge surface raised relative to the upper surface of the front bumper, with said first side open region facing a first area adjacent to the first side of the vehicle and with said second side open region facing a second area adjacent to the second side of the vehicle and a retracted position with said upper edge surface substantially flush with the upper surface of the front bumper;

a first camera supported by said carrier unit and movable with said carrier unit to a position above the front bumper with a field of view of said first area when said carrier unit is in said operating position and to a position within the front bumper when said carrier unit is in said retracted position, said first camera being operatively connected to said display device for displaying images captured by said first camera when said carrier unit is in said operating position;

a second camera supported by said carrier unit and movable with said carrier unit to a position above the front bumper with a field of view of said second area when said carrier unit is in said operating position and to a position within the front bumper when said carrier unit is in said retracted position, said second camera being operatively connected to said display device for displaying images captured by said second camera when said carrier unit is in said operating position.

20. (New) The monitoring device according to claim 19, wherein the carrier unit is locked in said retracted position in order to provide protection against damage or theft.